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August 13, 1981

Honorable William Casey, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I write to you in the hope that damages to me, and a lawsuit against the CIA, can be avoided.

Last fall I signed a contract for a book on the problem of government learning rates, with a manuscript due in late fall of this year. A major portion of the book is to be devoted to a case study of the Bay of Pigs.

Beginning earlier this year I applied, under the FOIA, for several materials that have substantive value for the project: the Inspector General's report, a DDP "reclama," intelligence summaries, a document by Richard Bissell. As well, JCS documents that the DOD is willing to release have come over to the CIA and are stalled there.

All of the legal deadlines are now passed so that there are continuing violations of law which threaten injury to my ability to fulfill contract obligations entered into on the assumption that they would be met.

The place of the requested documents in my research is not to learn additional secrets about the details of the operation. Maxwell Taylor's "Top Secret," "Eyes Only," "Ultra-Sensitive" 1-copy-only narrative and report to President Kennedy has now been released. There have been books and articles by Wyden, Kirkpatrick, Bissell, E. Howard Hunt, Schlesinger, Sorenson, Haynes Johnson, and others. The details, and even the real names, are pretty well known. What the documents provide is evidence of ways of thinking (unaffected by later memory), ways of analyzing the problem, and a list of the lessons learned at the time. They pose no threat to current national security.

I have written to Mr. John Bacon of the CIA about this problem and have not yet received a reply.

I do need the materials by September 15. I hope to avoid damages and a lawsuit, and I wanted to be sure you know the circumstances. In this case, if you have the flexibility and interest to be helpful, I would appreciate it.

I would also appreciate an acknowledgement of this letter so that I may know your views, and the CIA's timetable, and may consider any alternative legal means that may be advisable.

Yours sincerely,



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